



The FAST program is a bilateral initiative between the United States and Canada designed to ensure security and safety while enhancing the economic prosperity of both countries. In developing this program, Canada and the United States have agreed to harmonize, to the maximum extent possible, their commercial processes for clearance of commercial shipments at the border. This will promote free and secure trade by using common risk-management principles, supply chain security, industry partnership, and advanced technology to improve the efficiency of screening and clearing commercial traffic at our shared border.

FAST is a harmonized clearance process for known low-risk shipments. Thus, any truck using FAST lane processing must be a FAST approved carrier, carrying qualifying goods from a U.S. Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) approved importer, and the driver in possession of a valid FAST – Commercial Driver Card. FAST processing is based upon advanced transmission of information. The following are the key components:

Importer Registration: Importers will complete separate applications to the customs administrations in the United States and Canada. Importers authorized to use the FAST program for clearance into the United States will have a demonstrated history of complying with all relevant legislative and regulatory requirements, and will have made a commitment to security enhancing business practices as required by C-TPAT.

Carrier Registration: Carriers will complete a single FAST Highway Carrier Application that includes a security profile and a written Highway Carrier Agreement. A carrier may apply to either or both Canada and the United States. Each country will perform an independent risk assessment and each country will issue independent approvals for participation. For the United States, a FAST approved carrier will have met all aspects of C-TPAT through the FAST registration process. Carriers authorized to use the FAST program will have a demonstrated history of complying with all relevant legislative and regulatory requirements and will have made a commitment to security-enhancing business practices as required by C-TPAT.

Commercial Driver Application: Drivers will complete a single FAST Commercial Driver Application. The application will be risk-assessed by the customs and immigration of both countries. Applicants identified as low risk will report to an enrollment center where they will be interviewed, have their original identification and citizenship documents reviewed, fingerprinted and have a digital photo taken. Low-risk applicants may then be issued a FAST- Commercial Driver Card. This card will be a proximity card and will display the digital photo and biographical information of the driver. During FAST border processing a reader will recognize that driver as a FAST approved commercial driver and will display his/her photo and biographical information in the Primary Truck Lane.

Commencing December 2002, FAST processing will be available at the following major U.S./Canada border crossings:

Blaine-Douglas

Detroit-Windsor

Port Huron-Sarnia

Buffalo-Fort Erie

Lewiston-Queenston

Champlain-Lacolle